

What is eternal life ?



I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;
no one will snatch them out of my hand. John 10:28

But before we consider eternal life we need to just
look at the



1. This is all there is ...

2. Is there eternal death ?

For the honest evolutionist – there is no such thing !

This is just pure chance and nothing else



What you think is beautiful etc. in world and universe is a complete, un-designed accident. AND in X billion years ... it will ALL be dead.

The second law of thermodynamics says that ... disorder in a closed system increases. Differences in temperature, pressure, and density tend to even out horizontally *after a while*.

And if – there is no such thing as eternal life !

Then as the apostle Paul said

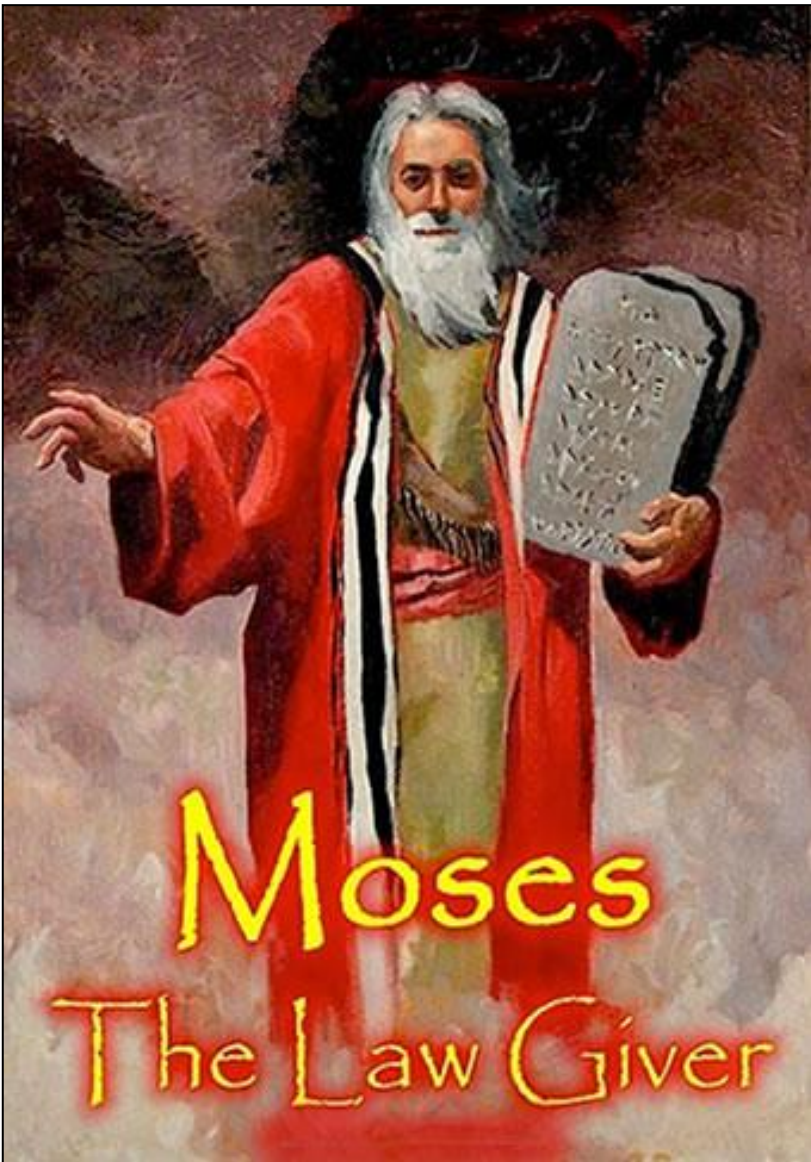
If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." 1 Corinthians 15:32



And the logic is .. If we die like an animal, why shouldn't we live like one ?



There are consequences !



The Contrast of death vs. life
teaches us about life

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Deuteronomy 30:19- 20

Where did it begin ?

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."



Genesis 2:15 - 17

By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return

Genesis 3:19

Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930 years,
and then he died. Genesis 5:5

That was a long time but eventually ...



Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930 years,
and then he died. Genesis 5:5

So what died in the “day he ate the fruit” ?

**Death to the spirit
Separation
Broken fellowship
with God, Eve
and the creation**

For ever ?



For ever

But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars--they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulphur. This is the second death." Revelation 21:8

into hell.

where "'the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.'" Mark 9:48

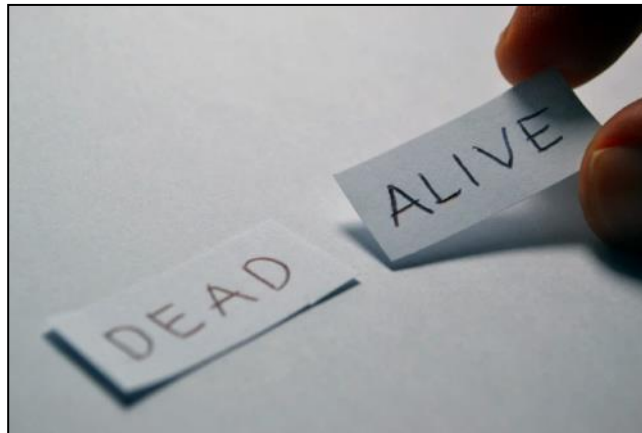


Here we see sin as the terrible destroyer

And in our natural present state we are 'dead in transgressions and sin' (Ephesians 2:1)

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Ephesians 2:1 -3

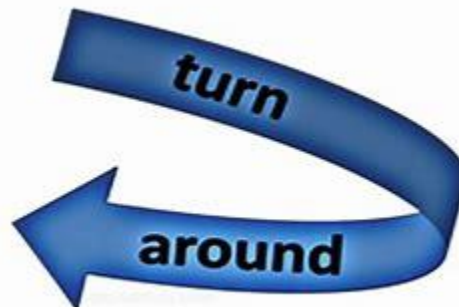


Is there a way to escape this ?

If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, where "the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.'

Mark 9:43 - 48

Sin requires serious repentance



Is there a way to escape this ?

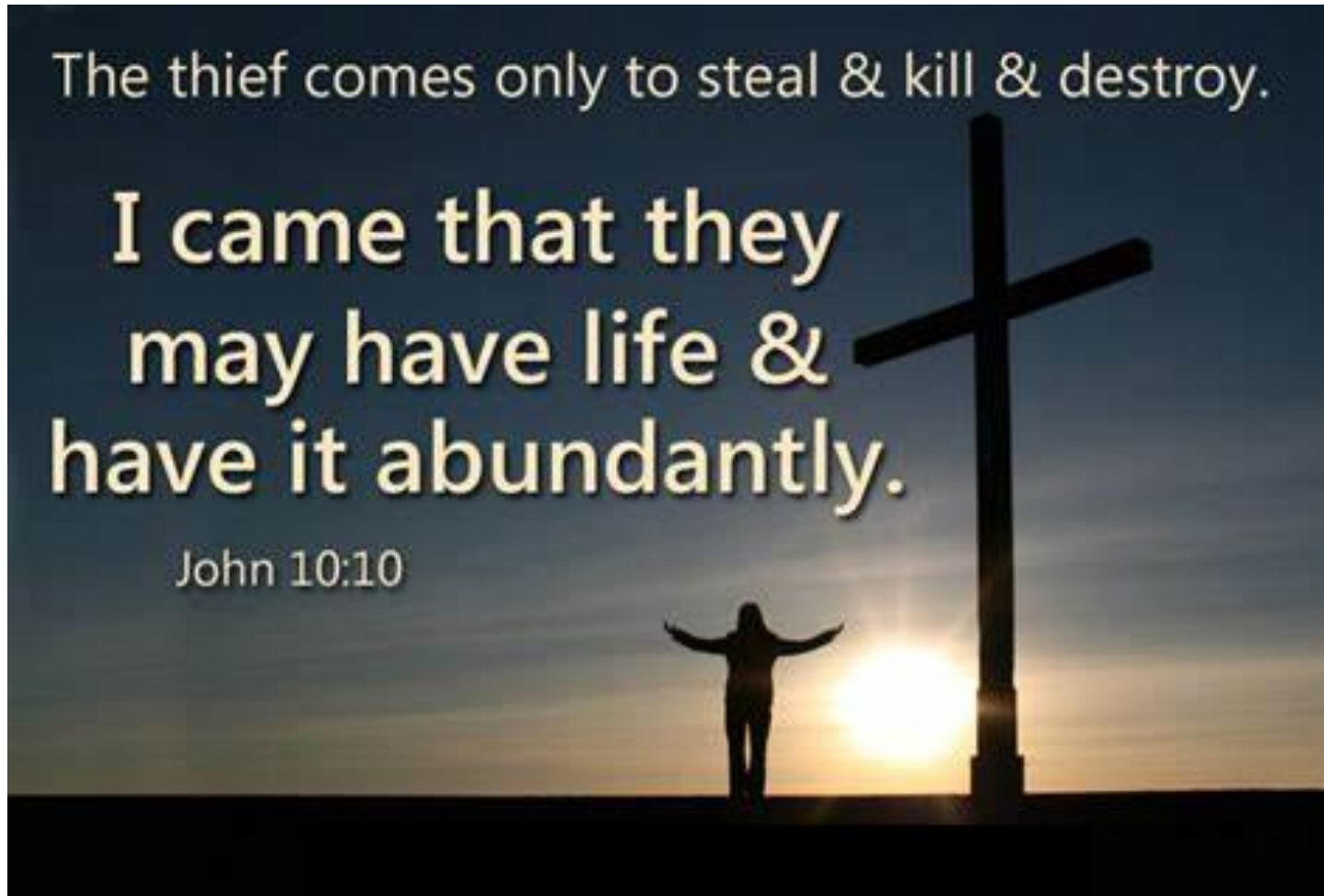
**Sin requires serious repentance
and GRACE**

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

Ephesians 2:4 -6



Through faith in Jesus we can enter into Eternal life



A Full relationship with the Life-Giver

Eternal life begins NOW

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;
no one will snatch them out of my hand.

My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all;
no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

John 10:28 - 29



Totally secure !



For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:3

'Time' is part of this present creation



Eternal life is a different mode of life


Jesus replied, "The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection.

Luke 20:34 - 36

Our present relationship promises a glorious future

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1 - 2



In a
moment,
in the
twinkling
of an
eye,

1 Corinthians 15:52

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 1Corinthians 15:51 - 52

A body Fit for eternity

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:3-5

**Notice the use of negatives here ...
reality is too good to describe**



A place beyond present description

I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know--God knows. And I know that this man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows-- was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell.

2 Corinthians 12:2 - 4



We have a Problem !

How is this possible for fallen sinful men & women?

The one who sins is the one who will die.

Ezekiel 18:20



executioner's sword

THE Solution

Substitutionary Atonement

Old Testament sacrifices are a window opened in Isaiah 53
One of the chosen people,
the Chosen One will pay



Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:4- 6

How can one person pay for all of us ?

‘How much’ depends on
the value of the person being offered
and the reality of being “IN Christ”



How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Hebrews 9:14

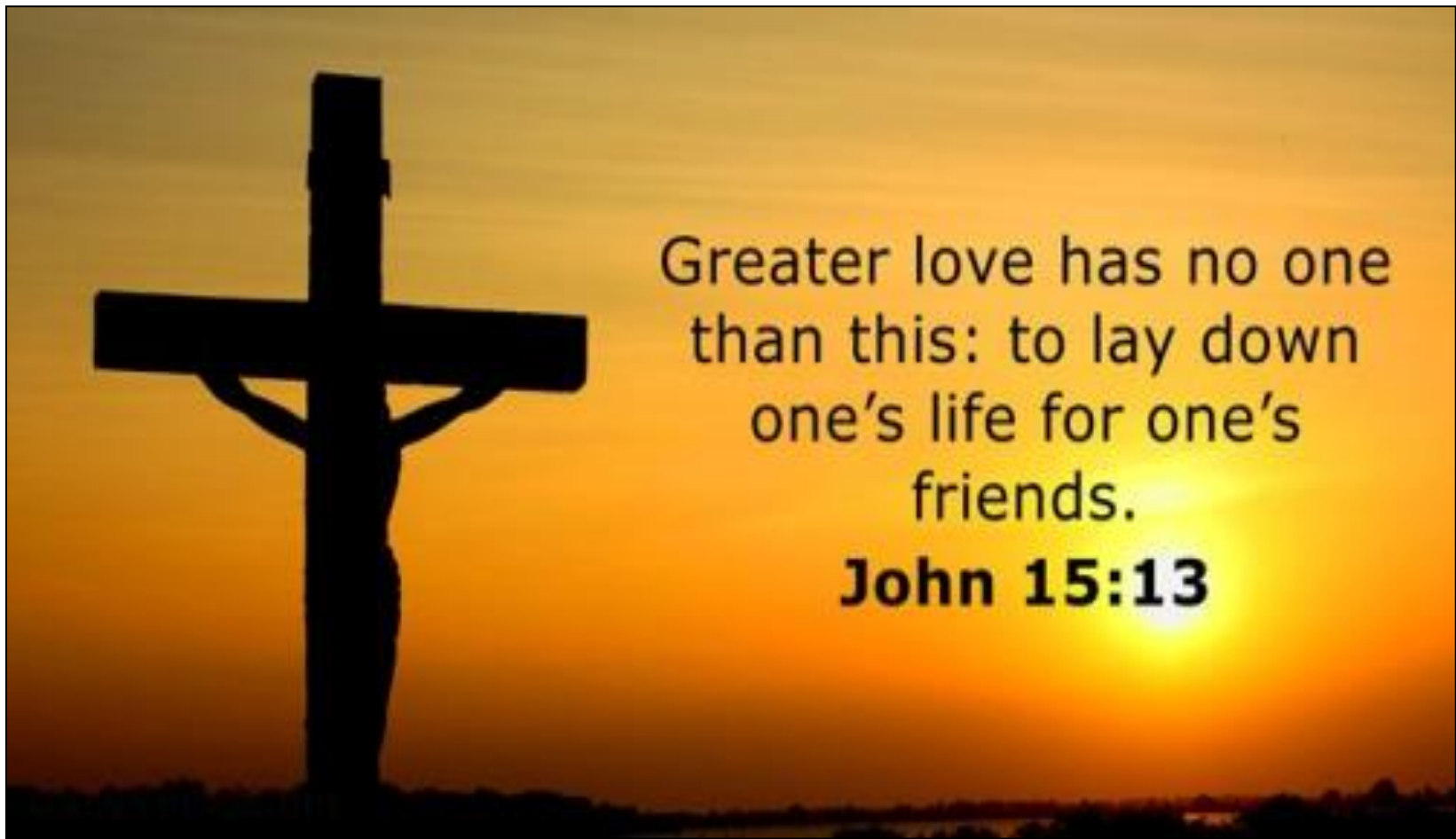
Here is a Mystery

How did Jesus compress an eternity of separation into his last day and hours?
Beginning in the garden of Gethsemane
(olive oil press)



It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Luke 23:44 -45



Greater love has no one
than this: to lay down
one's life for one's
friends.

John 15:13

For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:10

Eternal life begins

I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. John 17:6

From the beginning



Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'

Matthew 25:34

Eternal life begins

**From the beginning of our walk
with Jesus**



For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--
and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not
by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8 - 9

Eternal life

Since by nature we don't possess it

I need to :-

1. See it as a gracious free gift from God
2. Receive it .. (not just admire it)



We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

**Now this is eternal life:
that they know you,
the only true God,
and Jesus Christ,
whom you have sent.**

John 17:3

